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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 135
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Crawford and Gereda Phillips on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, This General Assembly takes great pleasure in honoring those successful marriages that have prevailed to serve as standards for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, On March 4, 1951, Crawford Phillips and Gereda Carson were joined in marriage, and since that happy day, this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, depending upon their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Gereda Carson Phillips is the daughter of Leon and Laura Cecil Carson; and Crawford Phillips is the son of James H. and Elsa Kercher Phillips; and

WHEREAS, Crawford Phillips and Gereda Carson first met in the Summer of 1950, Gereda was pitching horse shoes in the yard of a friend's home, when Crawford drove by and saw her; knowing some of the people there, he stopped to meet her; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips remembers first seeing Gereda with shoulder length curly hair and wearing black and white oxfords; the couple's first date was at church, and they dated all winter; and

WHEREAS, Crawford Phillips went to the Huntsville Courthouse for the marriage license and the County Judge, Charlie Marcum, had to sign for Gereda because she was only sixteen; and

WHEREAS, On Sunday afternoon, March 4, 1951, between four and five o'clock, Gereda Carson, wearing her peddle pushers, married Crawford Phillips; the marriage was performed by William "Bill" Cecil, Gereda's Uncle, and was witnessed by Curt Sexton and Jerry West; and

WHEREAS, The ceremony took place in the middle of the AY West Hill; Leon and Laura Carson, Gereda's parents, had been married at the top of the hill; and

WHEREAS, The next day when Crawford's father, James H. Phillips ran into Gereda's father, Leon Carson he told him that Gereda and Crawford had married; and

WHEREAS, Crawford Phillip's first job was hauling logs for Ester Duncan and Gereda Phillip's was first employed by the Boss Glove Factory; and

WHEREAS, For fifty years this union has endured to serve as a testament to the power of love and family; and

WHEREAS, this couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced five wonderful children; the Phillips children are: Helen Spradlin, Floyd Phillips, Kathy Stanley, Stacey Simpson and Anthony Phillips; and

WHEREAS, Crawford and Gereda Phillips have nine loving grandchildren: Charlsey Cofer, Amy Martin, Kelly Spradlin, Eric Phillips, Adrienne Phillips, Shawna Simpson, Brandon Simpson, Tony Phillips, and Mindy Phillips; and

WHEREAS, the Phillip's have one beautiful great-granddaughter, Hannah Martin; and

WHEREAS, the Phillipses are the epitome of good neighbors, and they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, Crawford and Gereda Phillips have faithfully attended Paint Rock Baptist Church for all of their married life, and the church has been an important part of their family; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Phillips' represent the best of our society, as they remind us of the beauty and value of continuity and commitment; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Crawford and Gereda Phillips on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.